

Name _____

Date _____

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Precipitation Types

1. Define precipitation.

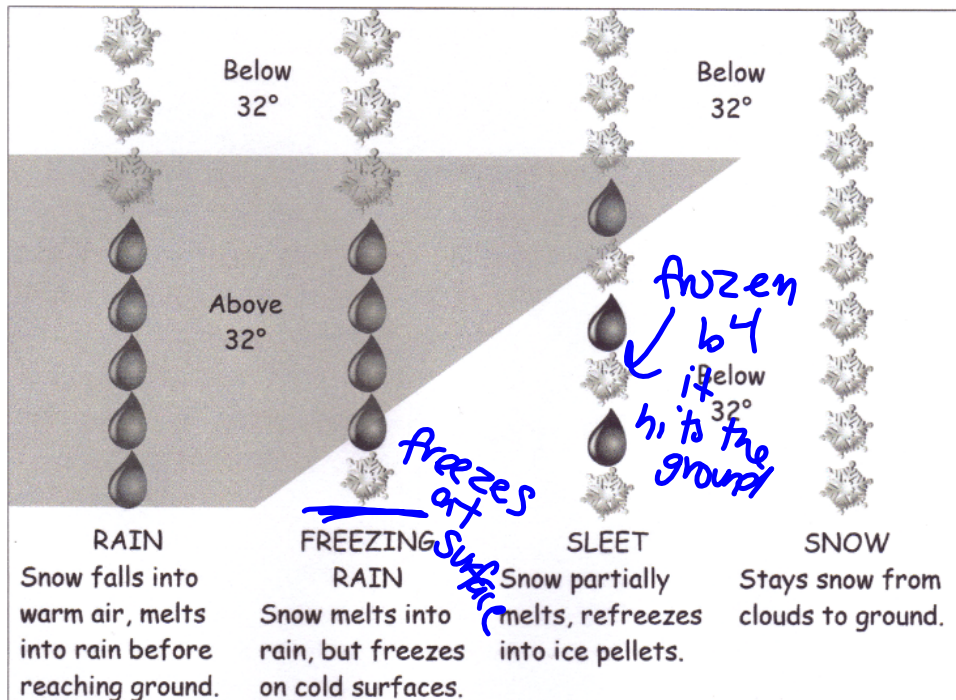
liquid or solid that falls to earth as part of the water cycle

2. What tools are used to measure precipitation?

liquid *rain gauge*

frozen *long wler*

"Temperatures and Precipitation"



For each type of precipitation, describe how it forms.

Rain/Drizzle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most common • starts as a liquid or crystal • drizzle is rain in very small drops
Freezing Rain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rain that freezes when it hits ground • ground must be colder than the air
Hail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ice rotates up and down in clouds • most often occurs in warm weather • occurs during thunderstorms
Sleet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rain freezes before it hits ground • passes through cold air • forms small pellets of ice
Snow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ice crystals that form & grow in clouds • stays frozen from beginning to end

1. What is the major factor in determining the type of precipitation that will fall?

temperature

2. Which type of precipitation stays frozen?

snow & hail

3. How is freezing rain different from rain/drizzle?

freezing rain freezes when it hits the ground

4. Under what conditions could you have frozen precipitation in the summer?

hail

